

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 00806 181332Z

51

ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7688

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 0806

DAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PINR, PDEV, MZ, PO, TZ, US, WZ, ZA

SUBJECT: FRELIMO PARDONS 240 "TRAITORS"

1. SUMMARY: FRELIMO MARCH 16 PARDONED JLRP "TRAITORS", INCLUDING URIA SIMANGO AND PAULO GUMANE, AFTER PRINCIPAL MEMBERS OF GROUP READ ABJECT CONFESSIONS BEFORE MASS RALLY AT FRELIMO'S NACHINGWEA CAMP. GUMANE SOUGHT IMPLICATE US, ISRAEL AND OTHERS AS HAVING GIVEN HIM ADVICE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT, AND HIS CONFESSION SINGLED OUT A NUMBER OF AMERICAN DIPLOMATS BY NAME. ALTOGETHER IT WAS A DEGRADING SPECTACLE REMINISCENT OF THE SOVEIT PURGE TRIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN SPECTACULAR MASS RALLY AT NACHINGWEA MARCH 16, FRELIMO LEADERS DRAMATICALLY PARDONED 240 "TRAITORS", ALL AFRICAN
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 00806 181332Z

MOZAMBICANS. ROSTER SO FAR MENTIONED IN PRESS INCLUDES:

PAULO GUMANE (EX-HEAD OF COREMO),
FAUSTIN KAMBEU (EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY OF COREMO),
ASSAHIEL JOHASSANE MAZULA (EX-MEMBER MOZAMBIQUE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL),
REV. URIA SIMANGO (ONE TIME VICE PRESIDENT OF FRELIMO
WHO DEFECTED TO COREMO AND BECAME LATTER'S SECRETARY FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

LAZARO KAVANDAME (FRELIMO PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR
CABO DELGADO WHO DEFECTED TO PORTUGUESE),
JOAO JOSE CRAVEIRINHA (FRELIMO GRAPHICS EXPERT WHO
DEFECTED TO PORTUGAL: SON OF MOZAMBIQUE BUREAUCRAT OF SAME
NAME AND NEPHEW OF POET JOAO JOAO CRAVEIRINHA),
DR. JOAO UNYAI (PARTISAN OF SIMANGO)
BASILIO BANDA (FRELIMO MEMBER WHO DEFECTED TO
PORTUGUESE),
ALI MADEBE (MEMBER OF SO-CALLED "COUNCIL OF ELDERS"
OPPOSITION GROUP WITHIN FRELIMO IN 1968),
VERONICA ANJIVA (ONLY WOMAN IN GROUP; ACCUSED
OF HAVING HARBORED ASSASSINS SEEKING TO KILL MACHEL
IN 1969).

3. CEREMONY, ACCORDING EYE-WITNESS, WAS IMPRESSIVE IF
DEGRADING SPECTACLE LASTING SOME SEVEN HOURS. AFTER
SMALL FRY PARADED BEFORE CROWD IN GROUPS AND PARDONED,
THE SIX MAIN OFFENDERS (THE SIX FIRST MENTIONED ABOVE)
WERE REQUIRED TO READ ALOUD LONG AND DETAILED CONFESSIONS
OF THEIR CRIMES, CULMINATING IN WHAT MACHEL CALLED HIS
"CHRISTMAS TURKEY", URIA SIMANGO. SOME WHO READILY
BLACKENED THEMSELVES WERE TREATED FAIRLYKINDLY; OTHERS WHO
STILL MAINTAINED SOME INNOCENCE WERE CONFRONTED WITH
"NEW EVIDENCE" AND FURTHER REVEILED. THUS 63-YEAR OLD
KAVANDAME TRIED TO PLEAD INNOCENT TO WORKING FOR PORTUGUESE
SECRET POLICE (PIDE) AND AFTER CONFRONTATION WITH SUPPOSED
WRITTEN PROOF TO THE CONTRARY WAS COMPELLED TO JOIN WITH
CROWD IN SINGING SONG DENOUNCING HIS OWN TREASON. CRAVEIR-
INHA ALSO ROUGHLY TREATED, AND FORCED TO CONFESS TO DRUNKEN-
ESS AND KEEPING PROSTITUTES. AFTER EACH CONFESSION, THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DAR ES 00806 181332Z

READER WAS TOLD TO ASK CROWD WHAT PUNISHMENT HE DESERVED,
WITH CROWD GENERALLY LOUDLY DEMANDING HANGING. HOWEVER,
ALL WERE PARDONED, OR AT LEAST REPRIEVED, FOR IT IS NOT
CLEAR THAT THEY WILL NOT HAVE TO PERFORM SOME FORM OF
FURTHER PENANCE.

4. OF PRINCIPAL CONCERN TO USG WILL BE CONFESSION
FROM GUMANE, SEEKING IMPLICATE VARIOUS US DIPLOMATS

AS HAVING PROVIDED FINANCING AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO OPPOSE FRELIMO. ACCORDING DAILY NEWS ACCOUNT GUMANE AND OTHERS "ALL ADMITTED TO HAVE CONNECTIONS WITH DIPLOMATS OF THE EMBASSIES OF THE UNITED STATES, ISRAEL, AND SOME CERTAIN AFRICAN COUNTRIES". SWAHILI DAILY UHURU ACCOUNT MORE SPECIFIC, SAYING THAT GUMANE'S CONFESSION"EXPLAINED THE ESPIONAGE OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSIES IN DAR ES SALAAM AND LUSAKA." GUMANE QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE MET AMERICAN CONSUL JOHN BLACKEN AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN DAR ES SALAAM IN 1962, AND LATTER GAVE HIM MONEY AND ADVISED HIM UNTIL HE MOVED TO LUSAKA IN 1965. SINCE 1962 HE HAD ALSO RECEIVED MONEY FROM ISRAEL AND WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. IN LUSAKA HE DEPENDED ENTIRELY ON MONEY PAID HIM BY WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. HE WAS ALSO SUPPORTED BY THEN ZAMBIAN VICE PRESIDENT KAPWEPWE, WHO GAVE COREMO MORE THAN 10,000 SHILLINGS AND ADVISED IT TO TRY TO OPPOSE FRELIMO INSIDE MOZAMBIQUE. FINALLY, GUMANE QUOTED AS SAYING THAT AFTER FRELIMO VICTORY LAST YEAR, HE WAS ADVISED BY THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN LUSAKA (EYEWITNESS SAYS HE SPECIFIED CONSUL CLAGETT TAYLOR) TO RETURN QUICKLY TO MOZAMBIQUE IN ORDER BUILD HIMSELF UP BEFORE FRELIMO SEIZED POWER. TWO AFRICAN AMBASSADORS (EYEWITNESS SAID SWAZILAND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NAMED) ALSO ADVISED HIM TO BUILD UP ANTI-FRELIMO MOVEMENT. (EYEWITNESS SAID GUMANE NAMED OTHER AMERICAN OFFICERS IN ZAMBIA AS CONTACTS.)

5. COMMENT: MODE AND CONTENT OF CONFESSIONS SUGGEST FRELIMO HAS WELL LEARNED TECHNIQUE OF BRAINWASHING FROM ITS CHINESE MENTORS. ABJECT CONFESSIONS, SOUPED UP WITH PLAUSIBLE DETAILS, INCLUDING NOT ONLY EVERY IMAGINABLE POLITICAL CRIME BUT ALSO MORAL TURPITUDE, PUBLIC HUMILIATION OF CONFESSION-READERS, DEMANDS FOR THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 DAR ES 00806 181332Z

EXECUTION AND MAGNANIMOUS REPRIEVE, ARE ALSO PART OF PATTERN, AS IS THE IRRELEVANT IMPLICATION OF OTHER VILLAINS OF THE MOMENT (SUCH AS ISRAEL). ALTOGETHER A NEITHER PRETTY NOR REASSURING PICTURE OF THE KIND OF GOVERNMENT FRELIMO WILL FORM.

6. GUMANE'S EFFORTS IMPLICATE USG IN HIS ACTIVITIES, OR RATHER FRELIMO'S DECISION TO FEATURE THEM IN HIS CONFESSION, ALSO DISTURBING AT MOMENT WHEN WE AND FRELIMO DISCUSSING POSSIBLE AID PROGRAM (WE UNDERSTAND MACHEL, IN HIS ADDRESS TO RALLY, PUBLICLY SCOFFED AT WESTERN AMBASSADORS WHO NOW RUSHING IN WITH AID OFFERS). WE HOPE TO HAVE MORE ON THIS PARDON SPECTACLE SOON. AT ANY RATE IT SHOULD RELIEVE DOUBTS ABOUT FATE OF SOME FRELIMO OPPONENTS. JOANA SIMIAO WAS NOTABLY ABSENT FROM CEREMONY;

WHETHER THIS MEANS SHE STILL AT LARGE OR NOT SUBJECT
TO PARDON REMAINS TO BE SEEN.
CARTER

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